



Death Valley as seen from Dante's View. Photo Credit: Chris Stachelski.

## **Preface**

June 8, 2011 marked a significant milestone in the weather history of Death Valley, California. On this date, a virtually continuous record of weather in one of the world's most extreme climates reached the century mark. Fascination with the weather of Death Valley, California ranges well beyond that of meteorologists and weather enthusiasts. Numerous people throughout the United States frequently track temperatures in Death Valley to see just how extreme they are. Each year thousands of visitors – many from Asia and Europe – travel to Death Valley to personally experience the intense summer heat it usually offers.

Few people would argue that Death Valley is one of the leading locations in the United States where there is not only national but global interest in the local climate. However, despite such a prominent location, the weather of Death Valley has been recorded for a century only by volunteer weather observers using equipment provided by the National Weather Service or its' predecessor agencies. No formal weather observatory such as those at Mount Washington, New Hampshire or Blue Hill, Massachusetts has ever been set up here nor has there ever been a National Weather Service office located here. As a result, a formal publication listing the individual records by day, month and year has never been produced by the National Weather Service or any of its predecessor agencies. After 100 years, it was decided that such a prominent weather site should have a formally documented set of such records as well as additional information on the climate of Death Valley, hence this report. It is hoped this publication serves to benefit those seeking information on the climate of Death Valley.